REMARKS

Please cancel claims 9 and 15 without prejudice or disclaimer.

The limitations of claims 9 and 15 were incorporated into claim 8 and claim 14 respectively via examiner's amendment and should be cancelled.

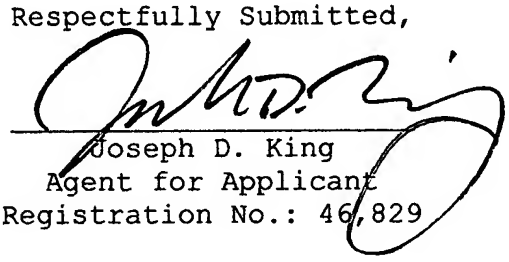
Applicant has amended claim 8, previously changed via examiner's amendment, to remove language that the gate valve member is composed of a resiliently deformable material *"that, in combination with said acutely angled first end is"* operative to provide an interference fit. Applicant's specification does not explicitly teach that resiliently deformable material *in combination with an acutely angled portion* of said gate valve provides the sealing mechanism, ergo antecedent basis may be lacking.

Applicant notes examiners reasons for allowance without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicant avers under MPEP 1302.14, the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance are the personal opinion of the examiner as to why the claims are allowable and does not create an *estoppel*.

The failure of applicant to comment on the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance are not to be construed as acquiescence to the examiner's statement.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joseph D. King
Agent for Applicant
Registration No.: 46,829

P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)
	)
Tackett D. M.	) Examiner: Cartagena, Melvin A.
	)
Application No.: 10/694,537	) Art Unit: 3754
	)
Filed: October 25, 2003	)

For: **LIQUID CONTAINER HAVING GATE VALVE**

Date: June 19, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 6.19.06

By: Joseph D. King

Mail Stop: ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Previously Presented) A container for dispensing fluid comprising;

a channel formed into a surface of said container, said channel positioned proximate to a threaded neck member having an orifice for dispensing a liquid, said channel having first and second openings formed in opposite surfaces thereof at a first end of said channel;

a one piece gate valve member slideably positioned in said channel;

wherein only a first end of said gate valve member is acutely angled with respect to a remaining portion of said gate valve, said acute angle formed in a first direction;

wherein said gate valve member further comprises a handle formed at a second end of said gate valve member said handle formed in a direction opposite said first direction;and

wherein said gate valve member is composed of a resiliently deformable material operative to provide an interference fit for providing a seal between said gate valve member and said channel.

2. (Original) The container of claim 1 wherein said channel has a shape that generally follows a contour of said container.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The container of claim 1 further comprising captive retaining means operative to prevent said gate valve member from being completely withdrawn from said channel.

5. (Original) The container of claim 4 further comprising retaining tabs located on said gate valve member, said tabs reversibly mateable with complementary locking notches formed into said channel.

6. (Original) The container of claim 1 further comprising fail safe biasing means operative to position said gate valve member in a normally closed position thereby blocking a flow of fluid until said gate valve member is intentionally actuated by an operator.

7. (Original) The container of claim 6 wherein said biasing means comprises a spring.

8. (Currently amended) A two piece container and valve system for dispensing fluid, said system consisting of said container, and said valve, said system comprising;

a channel formed into a surface of a reservoir portion of said container, and having a shape that generally follows a contour of said container, a portion of said channel positioned under a threaded neck member, said channel having first and second openings formed in opposite surfaces thereof at a first end of said channel;

a one piece generally flat gate valve member slideably positioned in said channel, said one piece gate valve member having only a first end acutely angled with respect to a remaining portion of said gate valve;

a spring positioned in said channel between said generally flat gate valve member and said first end of said channel, said spring operative to position said gate valve member in a normally closed position thereby blocking a flow of fluid until said gate valve member is intentionally actuated by an operator;

wherein said gate valve member is composed of a resiliently deformable material ~~that, in combination with said acutely angled first end is~~ operative to provide an interference fit for sealing said gate valve member within said channel; and

wherein said first and said second openings are positioned under said threaded neck member.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The container of claim 8 wherein a direction of movement of said gate valve member is perpendicular to a direction of a flow of said liquid.

11. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1 wherein a complete valve and container system consists of only two pieces: said container, and said gate valve member.

12. (Original) The container of claim 8 further comprising captive biasing means operative to 1) prevent said gate valve member from being completely withdrawn from said channel and 2) provide fail safe biasing means operative to position said gate valve member in a normally closed position thereby blocking a flow of fluid until said gate valve member is intentionally actuated by an operator.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) A gate valve assembly reversibly attachable to a top portion of a container for dispensing fluid, said gate valve assembly comprising;

a coupling having means for reversibly attaching said coupling to said container;

a channel formed into said coupling, said channel having first and second openings formed in opposite surfaces thereof;

a gate valve member slideably positioned in said channel;

wherein said gate valve member has retaining tabs protruding from opposing side surfaces of said gate valve member, said retaining tabs positioned entirely within said channel;

wherein said retaining tabs are entirely slidable within said channel;

wherein said gate valve member is composed of a resiliently deformable material operative to provide an interference fit for providing a seal between said gate valve member and said channel;and

wherein said means for reversibly attaching said coupling to said container is with a first set of threads, and further comprising a second set of threads formed on or in an end of said gate valve assembly opposite said first set of threads.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The gate valve assembly of claim 15 further comprising a biasing means operative to position said gate valve member in a normally closed position thereby blocking a flow of fluid until said gate valve member is intentionally actuated by an operator.

17. (Previously Presented) The gate valve assembly of claim 16 wherein said biasing means is a spring positioned inside said channel.

18. (Previously Presented) The gate valve assembly of claim 7 further comprising a hole formed into said gate valve member.

19. (Previously Presented) The gate valve assembly of claim 14 further comprising a spout formed in or on one end of said gate valve assembly.

20. (Previously Presented) The container of claim 1 wherein said first end of said gate valve member being acutely angled with respect to a remaining portion of said gate valve is positioned within said channel.